

Investigating the Factors Encouraging or Inhibiting the Study among Clients of Public Libraries in Mahshahr City

Abdolhamid Moarrefzadeh (Corresponding author)
Assistant Professor of LIS, Shahid Chamran University
hmoarref@yahoo.com

Shahrzad Iraji
M.A. of LIS, central office of Khuzestan Province Public Libraries
iraji_kamran@yahoo.com

Received: 2009.12.07; Accepted: 2010.03.18

Abstract

Purpose: The present research has studied the factors which encourage or inhibit studying among clients of age 20-30 years in public libraries of Mahshahr City in south west of Iran.

Methodology: The methodology of this research is of survey-descriptive type. SPSS and Excel software were used for the purpose of data analysis, and Pierson's correlation coefficient was employed for testing the hypotheses.

Findings: The research findings indicated that among the factors influencing the studying of clients in public libraries, there is a positive significant relationship between status of public libraries and individuals' education level, as well as between parents' education level and family's income. On the other hand, there is a negative significant correlation between the price of books and study, as well as use of other media and study. In addition, the findings showed that no significant relationship exists between the two factors of being married and gender and study. Furthermore, the present research indicated that the factors of importance in encouraging the study include: family's role in encouraging children to study, existence of libraries in schools, setting a special time in curriculum for study, and especially the librarians' being affable. In contrast, the important factors in inhibiting the study were concluded to be: lack of motivation, time shortage, inappropriateness of libraries, high price of books, and society's approach toward economic issues.

Originality/Value: This research has been carried out among youth concerning the significance of studying in promotion of their knowledge and the necessity of spreading study culture. It therefore investigates several factors encouraging and inhibiting the study for its use in future managerial policies of national institution of public libraries.

Keywords: Study; Public libraries; Mahshahr City; Library clients.